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DS&E NEWS RELEASE

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HTRI IN THE DOLDRUMS

Technical demand as measured by the High Technology Recruitment Index, slipped two points in August to 133, continuing the steady decline started in May when the Index stood at 141. The HTRI is a three-month running average of recruitment advertising volume directed to degreed engineers and scientists.

Although single month data for September show a two-point gain to 131 from August's 129, it is likely that the HTRI will dip further next month reflecting election-year uncertainties.

DS&E sees the current drop in the Index as only a slight easing of a still highly competitive market for technical talent. Notes a spokesperson, "HTRI is just about where it was at the beginning of the year, and well above the base year norm of 100. Only if the decline continues into 1985--well beyond the election--would it indicate a definite softening in demand."

(MORE)

HIGH TECHNOLOGY RECRUITMENT INDEX
(1961=100; Seasonally Adjusted)

Month	Single-Month Figure	High Technology Recruitment Index*
September,1983	111	108
October	110	102
November	100	111
December	123	120
January, 1984	137	132
February	135	134
March	129	137
April	148	139
May	139	141
June	138	138
July	138	135
August	129	133
September	131	--

*Based on a 3-month running average

HTRI is based on recruitment advertising placed in key newspapers and technical journals each month. DS&E, which has maintained the Index since 1960, is the human resources advertising and consulting subsidiary of Foote, Cone & Belding Communications, Inc.

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